

Message Text

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FOLLOWING REPEAT PARIS 5200 SENT ACTION SECSTATE

INFO BONN LONDON EC BRUSSELS NATO, FEBRUARY 28TH:

QUOTE UNCLAS PARIS 5200

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, ENRG, FR, EEC

SUBJECT: FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTER'S APPEARANCE BEFORE FOREIGN
AFFAIRS COMMISSION OF FRENCH SENATE FEBRUARY 28

1. FOREIGN MINISTER JOBERT TESTIFIED BEFORE FOREIGN AFFAIRS
COMMISSION OF FRENCH SENATE FEBRUARY 28. WE DO NOT YET HAVE FULL
TEXT OF JOBERT'S REMARKS. FOLLOWING ARE EMBASSY TRANSLATIONS OF
PRESS REPORTS OF JOBERT'S TESTIMONY.

2. ENERGY. JOBERT SAID THAT ALTHOUGH FRANCE REFUSED TO PARTICIPATE
IN THE COORDINATING COMMITTEE CREATED BY THE WASHINGTON CONFERENCE,
IT WAS PREPARED TO PARTICIPATE IN CERTAIN SPECIALIZED GROUPS ON
CONDITION THAT EUROPE SPEAK WITH ONE VOICE AND THAT THESE GROUPS
BE OPEN TO ALL MEMBER COUNTRIES OF THE OECD. JOBERT IS REPORTED
TO HAVE SAID THAT THE US SAW IN THE ENERGY CONFERENCE AN OPPORTUNITY
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TO IMPOSE ITS PLAN FOR A NEW ORGANIZATION OF THE ATLANTIC WORLD-

WHICH COULD BE SUBSTITUTED FOR SUCH ORGANIZATIONS AS THE EC NINE, THE OECD OR THE IMF. ALTHOUGH FRANCE WAS HOSTILE TO THE IDEA OF ORGANIZING THE ATLANTIC WORLD THROUGH "SHORT CIRCUITS," FRANCE, SAID JOBERT, "IS NOT HOSTILE TO THE US WHICH IS THE MOST IMPORTANT OF OUR ALLIES. HOWEVER, ITS POLICY POSES MANY DIFFICULTIES FOR US." JOBERT IS REPORTED TO HAVE SAID THAT HE WOULD NOT COMMENT ON THE REASONS BEHIND THIS AMERICAN ATTITUDE BUT NOTED THAT THE US SEEMED NOT TO ACCEPT THAT THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY MIGHT TAKE DECISIONS WHICH COULD AFFECT THE US WITHOUT HAVING FIRST CONSULTED WASHINGTON.

3. BONN SUMMIT AND EUROPE. THE BONN SUMMIT SCHEDULED FOR NEXT JUNE WILL SET FORTH THE PRINCIPAL LINES WHICH EUROPEAN COOPERATION WILL TAKE, SAID THE FOREIGN MINISTER. HE NOTED THAT WITH RESPECT TO THE CONSTRUCTION OF EUROPE, "IT WAS NECESSARY TO START FROM EXISTING REALITIES, THAT IS TO SAY FROM A EUROPEAN STANDPOINT", AND FROM THIS TO DEFINE WHAT POINTS ARE AGREED IN COMMON AND WHAT POINTS CANNOT BE. EUROPE, HE EMPHASIZED, "IS IN THE HANDS OF STATES AND THEIR PUBLIC OPINION." HE NOTED AS AN EXAMPLE OF THIS FACTOR THE CONSEQUENCES WHICH THE BRITISH ELECTIONS COULD HAVE FOR EUROPEAN CONSTRUCTION.

4. MIDDLE EAST. ACCORDING TO THE PRESS REPORTS, JOBERT WAS ASKED ABOUT THE FIRST RESULTS OF THE SECRETARY'S CURRENT TRIP TO THE MIDDLE EAST. JOBERT SAID, "THINGS ARE HAPPENING. A STEP, A SMALL ONE,

HAS BEEN TAKEN."STONE

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